

Atty. Docket No.: 21581/00270  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

NOV 24 2003

In re Application of  
OKUBO et al.

Serial No.: 09/849,980

Group Art Unit: 1653

Filed: May 8, 2001.

Examiner: Robinson, Hope A.

For: NOVEL POLYPEPTIDE  
HAVING WATER CHANNEL  
ACTIVITY AND DNA SEQUENCE

OFFICIAL

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated August 22, 2003, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** are shown beginning on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.